

Recycle Right

Know Before You Throw

When we put materials in the wrong recycling bin, we potentially cost the recycling program money. White paper, which brings a higher price than color paper (\$253/ton vs. \$143/ton), can't be sold as white if there are too many color pieces in it. Since we all value this service, please take a moment to learn about where materials need to go. While much of this information is a no-brainer, some of it may be surprising.

White Paper Includes:

- White bond paper
- White copy paper
- White computer printouts
- Work-a-day calendars
- White notebook papers
- White index cards
- White business cards
- All glossy or non-glossy white paper



Colored Paper Includes:

- Colored ledger paper
- Paper with glue, tape or adhesive
- All envelopes, including windowed
- NCR paper (KECC pledge forms)
- Manilla file folders
- Blueline reproductions—maps, engineering drawings
- Kraft envelopes
- Express mail envelopes
- Carbon paper
- Colored business cards
- White paper with a lot of colored ink



Recycling is a service provided by the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection Division of Waste Management



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The Tricky

These items seem like they could be disposed of in the paper recycling, but they should not be.

No Food Bags (even if it's paper)



Food bags with grease and food particles draw insects to the recycling facility.

Light Cardboard



Treat light cardboard (tissue boxes) like heavy cardboard. Break it down and put it with the heavy cardboard.

Shredding



Unless absolutely necessary, don't shred paper. Shredding creates dust, which is a health hazard for handlers.

Phonebooks and Newspapers



These go in the color bin unless you have a large number of them. In that case, ask for an additional barrel.

No-Throws

These items should never go into the paper recycling. There may be other recycling bins dedicated to these items.



- Binder clips
- Plastic
- Glass
- Wood
- Metal bars from hanging folders
- Food waste



- Floor sweepings
- Non-paper envelopes
- Peel and stick labels
- Rubber bands
- Paper towels
- Medical waste



If you see people recycling incorrectly, use the opportunity to inform them of the proper protocol.

Questions about recycling?

Contact:
The Kentucky Government Recycling Section

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